

Fort Myers

City, Lee County, Florida. LocalFlare, Data for Economic Development. Last updated 2026-10-04.

Population

Population	Change since the prior year	Change since 2020
102,060 2025	+1.3% 2024 to 2025	+18.1% 2020 to 2025
Census 2020	Basis of the latest figure	
86,395 2020	estimate 2025	

Population, April 1: 102,060



Source: University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research, Florida Estimates of Population, retrieved 2026-10-01

Labor force

Labor force	Employment	Unemployed
43,492 Aug 2026	41,234 Aug 2026	2,258 Aug 2026
Unemployment rate	Rate a year earlier	Labor force, change on a year earlier
5.2% Aug 2026	4.8% Aug 2025	-0.1% Aug 2026

Latest month is preliminary
yes Aug 2026

Unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted: 5.2%



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, retrieved 2026-10-01

Sales and visitor spending

BusinessFlare® estimate, last 12 months	Estimate runs to	Statewide median error, 2017 to 2022 back-test
\$5,294.1M 12 months to 2026-03	Mar 2026 Mar 2026	15.7% 2017 to 2022
Wide error flag	Retail trade (NAICS 44-45): Census sales 2017	Retail trade (NAICS 44-45): Census sales 2022
yes Mar 2026	\$3.65B 2017	\$4.84B 2022
Retail trade (NAICS 44-45): 2022 landing error	Accommodation and food services (NAICS 72): Census sales 2017	Accommodation and food services (NAICS 72): Census sales 2022
20.8% 2022	\$472M 2017	\$474M 2022
Accommodation and food services (NAICS 72): 2022 landing error		
42.7% 2022		

Economic Census anchors and the back-test

Sector	Census sales 2017	Census sales 2022	2017 carried to 2022	Landing error
Retail trade (NAICS 44-45)	\$3.65B	\$4.84B	\$5.84B	20.8%
Accommodation and food services (NAICS 72)	\$472M	\$474M	\$677M	42.7%

BusinessFlare® estimate from public sources.

The estimate anchors on the sales the US Census Bureau published for this place in the 2017 and 2022 Economic Census, for retail trade and for accommodation and food services, and moves them month by month with the county's sales tax returns by kind of business (Florida Department of Revenue Form 10). After the 2022 anchor the place's share of the county moves with the growth of its commercial property on the Department's 2026 tax roll, as submitted by the county property appraiser, by use code: stores, shopping centers, supermarkets and auto dealers for retail; restaurants, bars and hotels for accommodation and food. The three spending groups follow the county's kind code mix within each sector. Every place with both anchors was carried from 2017 to 2022 the same way and the landing on the 2022 Census figure is the published error.

Flags: wide error: the 2017 carry-forward landed 43% from the 2022 Census figure for Accommodation and food services (NAICS 72).

Monthly estimate, twelve month and annual views, the visitor, resident and big ticket groups, chart and workbook: Street Economics Pass data, served by the account service, never in this file.

Source: BusinessFlare® city-level sales and visitor spending estimate (method and error; the figures are Street Economics Pass data), retrieved 2026-10-04

Tourist tax: not shown. the county does not publish tourist tax collections by city

Business base

Licensed food service, lodging and alcohol businesses
1,239 Aug 2026

Food service licenses
519 Aug 2026

Lodging licenses
312 Aug 2026

Alcoholic beverage licenses
408 Aug 2026

New licenses, last 12 months
78 Aug 2026

New business filings, last 12 months (postal city)
7,643 Sep 2026

Change on the 12 months before
+3.8% Sep 2026

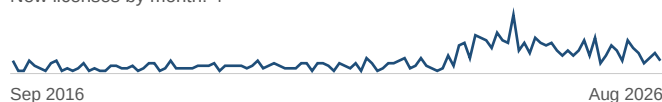
New filings, latest month
441 Sep 2026

Establishments (ZIP basis)
2,793 2023

Employees, mid March (ZIP basis)
50,142 2023

Annual payroll (ZIP basis)
\$3.27B 2023

New licenses by month: 4



Licenses are placed inside the city limits by their geocoded address.

Business formations are by postal city: Fort Myers, which is not the city limits.

Establishments, employment and payroll are a ZIP code basis: ZIP codes 33901, 33916, 33966.

Source: Florida DBPR active licensure base files: public food service, public lodging and retail alcoholic beverage licenses, retrieved 2026-10-01

Source: Florida Division of Corporations (Sunbiz) bulk corporate data files, new entity filings by month, retrieved 2026-10-01

Source: County Business Patterns and ZIP Code Business Patterns, complete data files, retrieved 2026-10-01

Building permits

Housing units permitted, last 12 months
1,574 Aug 2026

Change on the 12 months before
-18.2% Aug 2026

Permit valuation, last 12 months
\$340M Aug 2026

Units, latest month
15 Aug 2026

Single family units, last 12 months
347 Aug 2026

Units in buildings of 5 or more, last 12 months
1,219 Aug 2026

Units, latest annual table
1,849 2025

Housing units permitted by month: 15



Source: US Census Bureau, Building Permits Survey, place and county residential permits, retrieved 2026-10-01

Property roll

Total just value
\$17.6B 2026 preliminary

Total taxable value (non school)
\$11.4B 2026 preliminary

Total taxable value (school)
\$13B 2026 preliminary

Just value, change on the prior roll
-0.5% 2025 final roll to 2026 preliminary

Taxable value (non school), change on the prior roll
+0.4% 2025 final roll to 2026 preliminary

Total just value, prior roll
\$17.6B 2025 final roll

New construction value
\$285M 2026 preliminary

Parcels
36,246 2026 preliminary

Median single family just value
\$289K 2026 preliminary

Qualified sales, last 12 months
1,218 2025-06 to 2026-05

Median qualified sale price
\$332K 2025-06 to 2026-05

Just value, residential
\$10.8B 2026 preliminary

Just value, commercial
\$2.17B 2026 preliminary

Just value, industrial
\$1.25B 2026 preliminary

Just value, agricultural
\$143M 2026 preliminary

Just value, vacant
\$621M 2026 preliminary

Just value, institutional
\$922M 2026 preliminary

Just value, government
\$1.56B 2026 preliminary

Just value, other

\$132M 2026 preliminary

Just value by use group

Use group	Parcels	Just value	Taxable (non school)	New construction	Residential units	Just value change
Residential	30,134	\$10.8B	\$8.08B	\$187M	46,842	-2.5%
Commercial	1,392	\$2.17B	\$1.78B	\$17.4M	n/a	-0.9%
Industrial	669	\$1.25B	\$911M	\$68.6M	n/a	+23.9%
Agricultural	67	\$143M	\$9.57M	\$170K	n/a	+11.3%
Vacant	2,649	\$621M	\$420M	\$1.15M	n/a	-0.1%
Institutional	296	\$922M	\$101M	\$2.14M	n/a	-10.4%
Government	869	\$1.56B	\$432K	\$3.01M	n/a	+6.3%
Other	170	\$132M	\$73.8M	\$5.6M	n/a	-15.6%

Department of Revenue land use codes grouped: residential 001 to 009, commercial 011 to 039, industrial 041 to 049, agricultural 050 to 069, vacant 000, 010, 040 and 070, institutional 071 to 079, government 080 to 089, other 090 to 099. Taxable is the non school taxable value. Just value change compares with the 2025 final roll, summed the same way.

Parcels are placed by Census block group through the Census Bureau's block assignment file; a parcel in a block group that straddles the limits is apportioned. Census 2020 block groups; 80% of the county's just value lies in a place. Medians are over the parcels whose block group lies mostly in the place. Qualified sales: the roll's own sale fields, qualification codes 01 and 02, improved, single parcel.

Source: Florida Department of Revenue, NAL tax roll, 2026 preliminary and final as posted, retrieved 2026-10-03

Housing

Housing units

49,423 2020 to 2024 ACS

Occupied units

40,374 2020 to 2024 ACS

Vacant units

9,049 2020 to 2024 ACS

Owner occupied households

20,744 2024 1-Year

Renter occupied households

19,630 2024 1-Year

Homeownership rate

51.4% 2020 to 2024 ACS

Cost burdened households, all tenures (over 30% of income)

36.8% 2025

Cost burdened renter households

53.2% 2025

Severely cost burdened renters (over 50%)

28.2% 2025

Assisted housing developments

52 Assisted Housing Inventory

Assisted units

6,077 Assisted Housing Inventory

Median gross rent

\$1.76K 2020 to 2024 ACS

Median single family sale price

\$450K 2024

Homeownership rate: 49.0%



1990

2024

Source: Shimberg Center for Housing Studies, Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse, retrieved 2026-10-01

Fiscal

Half-cent sales tax, latest month

\$738K Sep 2026

Half-cent sales tax, fiscal year to date

\$9.67M FY2026 to 2026-09

Half-cent sales tax, last 12 months

\$9.67M Sep 2026

Half-cent sales tax, change on the 12 months before

-4.1% Sep 2026

State revenue sharing, latest month

\$372K Sep 2026

State revenue sharing, fiscal year to date

\$4.56M FY2026 to 2026-09

State revenue sharing, last 12 months

\$4.56M Sep 2026

State revenue sharing, change on the 12 months before

+2.4% Sep 2026

Total revenues

\$658M FY2024

Revenues, change on the year before

+28.0% FY2024

Total expenditures

\$503M FY2024

Expenditures, change on the year before

+19.1% FY2024

Revenues per resident

\$6.53K FY2024

Long-term debt outstanding at year end

\$471M FY2025

Long-term debt, change on the year before

-5.2% FY2025

Half-cent sales tax distributions by month: \$738K



Bank deposits

Deposits (offices reporting this city)

\$11B June 30, 2026

Change on a year earlier

-7.7% June 30, 2026

Change, real

-10.6% June 30, 2026

Branches

74 June 30, 2026

Institutions

27 June 30, 2026

Branches opened since the survey a year earlier

0 June 30, 2026

Branches closed since the survey a year earlier

0 June 30, 2026

Deposits, June 30 each year: \$11B



Offices whose reported city is Fort Myers.

Source: FDIC Summary of Deposits, Florida offices, every June 30 since 1994, retrieved 2026-10-01

Sources

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